The report of the Commission is under consideration and Government decisions are expected to be announced shortly.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PAY COMMISSION

1051. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a section of the Government employees and pensioners are not satisfied with recommendations of the Pay Commission;

(b) whether it is also a fact that serious discrimination between different categories of pensioners has been made by the recommendations of the Pay Commission; and

(c) whether senior Government Officers have been given more benefits by the Pay Commission?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) to (c) The recommendations of the Fourth Central Pay Commission on pension are under consideration of the Government, and decisions will be taken after taking into account all aspects including the views expressed by different sections of pensioners. In the meantime Government has decided to raise the minimum pension and minimum family pension to Rs. 375/- p.m. against Rs. 300/- recommended by the Pay Commission.

Women and All India Services of UPSC

1052. SHRI SUBHAS MOHANTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken a publicity programme recently to encourage women to apply for All India Services of UPSC;

(b) whether it is a fact that after entering service no efforts are made to foster healthy family life for women officers;

(c) what are the special facilities offered to women to serve after marriage in civil service;

(d) whether it is a fact that no concession is made to women officers in the matter of postings and promotions, etc.; and

(e) if so, what is the purpose of advertising for women applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Guidelines have been issued in 1986 to all Ministries|Departments that it is the policy of the Government that, as far as possible, and within the constraints of administrative feasibility, the husband and wife should be posted at the same station. These guidelines cover various categories of cases that may arise and how each category of case may be dealt with. These guidelines have been forwarded to the State Governments requesting them to consider issuing of similar guidelines in respect of employees of the State Governments.

The Government have been allowing with the concurrence of the State Governments concerned, inter cadre transfers when two cadre officers borne on different cadres of All India Services marry with a view to bringing them together for leading a happy family life. Apart from this, in cases of genuine hardship, short-term inter-

cadre deputations are also allowed to them to tide over their emergent problems.

(e) The media campaign was aimed at both men and women. The objectives were:

(i) to create an awareness among young men and women of the opportunities and challenges available in the civil service;

(ii) family life and civil service career can go together harmoniously; and

(iii) women can function as efficiently as men in the civil services.

Indignation amongst IAS and IPS Officers

1053. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steep increase in resignations from IAS and IPS Officers, in the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that such tendencies are due to uncertain promotion prospects in Civil Services; and

(c) what are the steps that are being taken to remove misgivings and fears amongst such officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Litigations instituted by Nationalised Banks

1054. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently the banks and financial institutions have been advised to settle litigations, where possible so as to reduce expenses and over-burdening of courts all over the country;

(b) whether any survey has been done on the number of suits, cases and legal actions that have been instituted by the nationalised banks, presently pending in courts and if so, the number of such cases filed by nationalised banks; and

(c) the steps being taken to reduce such litigations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) While no general advice to avoid litigation has been given to the banks, as a normal rule the banks take recourse to law courts only after exhausting available remedies for recovery of their advances|enforcement of their rights, including consideration of proposals for settlements|compromises, etc.

Quick reports obtained from the 20 nationalised banks indicate that as on 31.12.1986, they had about 5.85 lakh suits pending in various courts in the country.

DAVP advertisement for Urdu newspapers

1055. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Urdu newspapers, published from Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh; Delhi and West Bengal have applied for release of DAVP advertisements; and

(b) if so, what are the names of such Urdu newspapers which have received DAVP advertisement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI